

of the Prisoners sent to you, who acknowledged to me, that he was at May 4
 the House of John Taylor, and got Provision from him, to carry with
 him, when he left his House, and that he wrote the inclosed paper.
 On hearing that Doc^r Robertson and Austin Milburn, were at Tay-
 lors, at the time the Prisoners were there, I have procured the inclosed
 deposition of Austin Milburn. Taylor is a man of infamous char-
 acter, with a good deal of property, and has for a considerable time
 had a difference with M^r J. Aderton, and from the Officers below
 that I can most depend on, together with what Austin Milburn says,
 They shall esteem themselves very unsafe if Taylor is permitted to
 stay amongst them. I therefore flatter myself he will at least be kept
 confined. He has two Sons that go by water and I believe not well
 attached to our cause, I could wish they were removed. Captⁿ John
 H. Abell informs me that on his ordering James Theobalds & Dan^l
 Dris to join the Company that we are raising they left the parts and
 that a Canoe of Theobalds Fathers (who live at Point lookout) was
 seen with two Men in it Standing to the Eastern Shore, Theobalds
 by many has been long suspected of being disaffected, and it is not
 doubted that he has gone to the Enemy, he took with him one of the
 Public Arms with a Bayonet & Cartouch box. You have inclosed a
 list of officers recommended by the Field officers of the lower Battⁿ
 and as we are much in want of Officers, should be glad you would
 send the Commissions by the Bearer, or as soon as convenient. Many
 of the officers that have resigned did it as I have been informed on
 acco^t of their living near the Water, from which you will readily con-
 clude they were not good for much, which was really the case. In
 short we have a number of very bad Officers and how we shall get
 clear of them I am at a loss to know. The expences of sending the
 Prisoners you will be kind enough to pay to the Bearer M^r John Wood

[Deposition of Austin Milburn, Saint Marys County, before May 3
 Henry Reeder.]

The deposition of Austin Milburn Being duly sworn on the holy
 Evangels of Almighty God Before me one of the Justices of the
 Peace for the County afs^d deposeth & sayeth that the Prisoner that
 acknowledged the Paper signed Arthur Gauge second Lieutenant
 M^r Doyal & M^r Mullin, and was in the following words “ M^r James
 Adderton have a great deal of property of Negroes & Plate he lives
 in Saint Inegoes Creek near the Warehous whom is a great foe to
 M^r John Taylor living in Saint Marys County near the same place
 which have Behaved as a good friend to the Union flagg In distress
 which made their Escape from their Prisonment of & the Captured
 Jack of the Lanthorn ” And this deponant further sayeth that he with
 Doct^r Robinson went to John Taylors Blue stone and found the
 aforesaid Arthur Gauge M^r Doyal & M^r Mullin there and he the
 deponant asked them where they were from and they answered him